के दबाव में परिवर्तन करने से संबंधित मामले का उल्लेख किया गया है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस संबंध में कुछ स्वयंसेवी संगठनों ने अपने चिन्ता व्यक्त की है;

(ग) इस तरह के संशोधन के क्या उद्देश्य हैं और क्या उनके कारण उद्योगों द्वारा प्रदूषण को नियमित और नियंत्रित करने में कुछ शिथिलता नहीं आ जायेगी; और

(घ) इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ): (क) और (ख) जी हां। प्रश्नगत, संशोधन किसी दबाव के तहत नहीं किए गए थे।

(ग) और (घ) 27 जनवरी, 1994 की पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव मूल्यांकन अधिसूचना में 4 मई, 1994 को कुछ संशोधन किया गया था जिसका उद्देश्य यह था कि अधिसूचना की मूल भावना और विषय-वस्तु में परिवर्तन किए बिना पर्यावरणीय मूल्यांकन प्रक्रिया में तेजी लाई जा सके और परियोजना कार्यान्वयन में होने वाले विलंब को कम किया जा सके। इससे प्रदूषण नियंत्रण उपाय अपनाने तथा विहित मानकों के कार्यान्वयन में कोई ढील नहीं आएगी।

Agreement with German Government regarding waste management and pollution control

2860. SHRI GUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have concluded discussions with the German Government team led by their Minister of Environment for signing out a Memorandum of country's waste management, pollution control and river cleaning programme, etc.

(b) whether Government of Germany have assured some definite programmes to be implemented under the above MOU; and

(c) if so, the details of programmes to be undertaken in this regard, identification of areas of operation and companies to be involved from both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) During the visit of Dr. Klaus Topfer, Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of the Federal Republic of Germany to India in July, 1994, the subject of signing a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Environmental Affairs between India and Germany was discussed.

The details of the Memorandum of Understanding will be subject to the final text to be agreed between the Government of India and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

However, the draft text provides a broad framework for enhancing cooperation between India and Germany in a wide spectrum of environmental related areas. The areas identified for cooperation are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

List of areas of operation and companies to be involved from both the countries

The following priority areas are under consideration for cooperation between India and the Federal Republic of Germany:

1. Identification of pollution problems of mutual concern, and assessment of relevant control technologies keeping in view specific areas mentioned hereunder:

(a) water pollution control, including such aspects as waste water treatment for industrial, municipal and agricultural pollution, exchange of information on water quality standards, sludge disposal, protection of groundwater sources, clean-up of rivers;

(b) Air pollution control, including stationary and mobile sources; and

(c) Solid waste management, safe disposal and resource recovery, management of industrial wastes, in

particular hazardous wastes, reduction of wastes from packaging materials.

2. Environmental policy and management, including the legal and administrative measures related to the protection of environment, and economic instruments which are aimed at the internationalization of environment of environmental costs;

3. Increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energies;

4. Reinforcing environmental awareness, including environmental education and public participation;

5. Environmentally sound technologies, including cleaner production technologies;

6. Environmental problems in their relation to other policy areas and the relationship between environment and development;

7. exchange of views on global topics of mutual interest in the follow-up of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, especially in those areas which are covered by international Conventions and Protocols;

8. Exchange of views on and cooperation within the Commission on Sustainable Development;

9. Protection and rationale use of soil and land resources, including prevention of desertification; and

10. Protection and Conservation of flora & fauna with special attention to the study of rare and endangered species, to the prevention of trade in such species, and to the setting up of speical protection zones, national parks and natural sanctuaries.

Economic Orientation in Making of Foreign Policy

2861. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken/are being taken towards giving economic orientation to the foreign policy; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of External Affairs is placing the highest emphasis on giving an economic orientation to its diplomatic efforts, both at bilateral and multilateral levels.

(b) In keeping with the liberalisation of our trade and economic policies and the increasing globalisation of the economy, the Ministry has taken several steps to provide an enhanced economic content to its foreign policy. The constraints posed by new protectionist measures and discriminatory barriers in the form of labour and environment-related conditionalities, monopoly controls and restrictions on technology transfer are taken up in international organisations like the UN, NAM, G-77, G-15, CHOGM etc. Our economic diplomacy is aimed at activating a more meaningful and focussed North-South dialogue and forging new partnerships for development which would make for a greater flow of financial resources into developing countries like India, better market access for our exports as well as access to critical tools of competitiveness such as technology, particularly high technology and to global trade and information networks.

The Ministry, through the functions of its Missions and Posts abroad, particularly in target countries, promotes India's economic and commercial interests abroad through dissemination of information on trade, technology and investment oppartunities available in India, by providing back up support for promotion of our exports including project exports, monitoring the follow-up of various business transactions, facilitating removal of irritants and bottlenecks in respect of such